



Australian Bureau of Statistics

6291.0.55.001 - Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery, April 2018

Previous ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 24/05/2018

Summary

Main Features

Data from the monthly Labour Force Survey are released in two stages. The Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001) and Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003) are part of the second release, and include detailed data not contained in the Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) product set, which is released one week earlier.

The Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001) is released monthly. Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003) includes data only collected in February, May, August and November (including industry and occupation).

Since these products are based on the same data as the Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) publication, the 6202.0 Labour Force, Australia Explanatory Notes are relevant to both releases.

Insights from the Original Data

INSIGHTS FROM THE ORIGINAL DATA

SAMPLE COMPOSITION

The Labour Force Survey sample can be thought of as comprising eight sub-samples (or rotation groups), with each sub-sample remaining in the survey for eight months, and one rotation group "rotating out" each month and being replaced by a new group "rotating in". This sample rotation is important in ensuring that seven-eighths of the sample are common from one month to the next, to ensure that changes in the estimates reflect real changes in the labour market, rather than the sample. In addition, the replacement sample is generally selected from the same geographic areas as the outgoing one, as part of a representative sampling approach.

When considering movements in the original estimates, it is possible to decompose the sample into three components:

- the matched common sample (survey respondents who responded in both March and April);

- the unmatched common sample (survey respondents who responded in April but who did not respond in March, or vice versa); and
- the incoming rotation group (survey respondents who replaced respondents who rotated out in March).

The detailed decomposition of each of these movements is included in the data cube 'Insights From the Original Data'.

In considering the three components of the sample, it is important to remember that the matched common sample describes the change observed for the same respondents in March and April, while the other two components reflect differences between the aggregate labour force status of different groups of people.

While the rotation groups are designed to be representative of the population, the outgoing and incoming rotation groups will almost always have somewhat different characteristics, as a result of the groups representing a sample of different households and people. The design of the survey, including the weighting and estimation processes, ensures that these differences are generally relatively minor and seeks to ensure that differences in characteristics of rotation groups do not affect the representativeness of the survey and its estimates. Monthly estimates are always designed to be representative of their respective months, regardless of the relative contribution of the three components of the sample.

INCOMING ROTATION GROUP

In original terms, the incoming rotation group in April 2018 had a higher employment to population ratio than the group it replaced (60.6 per cent in March, up to 62.2 per cent in April 2018), and was higher than the ratio for the entire sample (62.0 per cent).

The full-time employment to population ratio of the incoming rotation group was higher than the group it replaced (41.2 per cent in March 2018 and up to 42.6 per cent in April 2018), and higher than the entire sample (42.2 per cent).

The unemployment rate of the incoming rotation group was 0.2 percentage points lower than the whole sample (5.4 per cent, compared to 5.6 per cent), and it replaced a group with a higher rate (6.1 per cent in March). Its participation rate was above that of the sample as a whole (65.8 per cent, compared to 65.7 per cent), and also above the group it replaced (64.5 per cent in March).

OUTGOING ROTATION GROUP

In looking ahead to the May 2018 estimates, the outgoing rotation group in April 2018, which will be replaced by a new incoming rotation group in May 2018, has a higher employment to population ratio (62.5 per cent in April 2018) compared to the sample as a whole (62.0 per cent). The full-time employment to population ratio (42.7 per cent) is higher than the ratio for the entire sample (42.2 per cent).

In original terms, the unemployment rate for the outgoing rotation group in April 2018 is lower than the sample as a whole (5.0 per cent, compared to 5.6 per cent). The participation rate for the outgoing rotation group in April 2018 is 65.8 per cent, which is higher than the rate for the whole sample (65.7 per cent).

THE IMPORTANCE OF TREND DATA

As the gross flows and rotation group data are presented in original terms they are not directly comparable to the seasonally adjusted and trend data discussed elsewhere in the commentary, and are included to provide additional information for the original data. Since the original data are unadjusted, they have a considerable level of inherent sampling variability, which is specifically adjusted for in the trend series. The trend data provide the best measure of the underlying behaviour of the labour market and are the focus of the commentary in this publication.

Online Collection in the Labour Force Survey

ONLINE COLLECTION IN THE LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

INTRODUCTION

Households selected in the ABS's Labour Force Survey (LFS) traditionally responded through a telephone or face-to-face interview, but from December 2012 the option of responding through online collection was introduced to incoming rotation groups. This provided respondents with greater choice and ensured that data collection remained cost-effective. Since April 2014, all private dwellings have been provided the option of using the online collection.

To afford additional attention to the quality assurance of April estimates each year, this annual update will be prepared on online collection rates up to March (in this case March 2018).

BACKGROUND

From December 2012 to April 2013, the ABS conducted a trial of online data collection. During this time, households in a single rotation group (i.e. one-eighth of the survey sample) were offered the option of self completing their LFS questionnaire online instead of via a telephone or face-to-face interview.

From May 2013, the ABS expanded the offer of online collection to 50% of each incoming rotation group. From September 2013, online collection has been offered to 100% of households in each incoming rotation group, and by April 2014 100% of LFS households were offered online collection. Interviewer collection (both telephone and face-to-face) continues to be available for households.

The ABS used the initial trial of offering online data collection to a single rotation group and the progressive introduction of the offer to other rotation groups, to measure the impact on the Labour Force series of the move to online data collection. Statistical analysis during this period concluded that there was no evidence of any reporting bias due to the introduction of online collection. Ongoing monitoring and analysis of online responses, has not identified a significant impact from the move to online self completion data collection.

CURRENT COLLECTION PROCEDURES

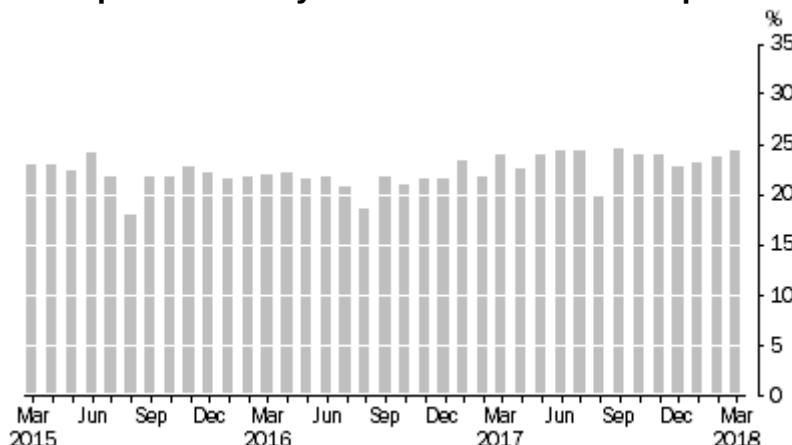
Households selected in the LFS are sent a letter and brochure informing them that they have been selected to participate in the survey. Since February 2014, survey respondents have been asked to use the unique user name and password provided in the letter to register an email address and other contact details for the household, or to contact the ABS if they are unable to participate in the survey online. A notification is then sent to respondents who have registered their contact details electronically to advise that the survey questionnaire is available for completion online within a specified one week period.

Respondents who are unable to participate in the survey online, along with respondents who register contact details for the household electronically but do not complete the survey questionnaire online within the specified one week period, are subsequently contacted by an ABS interviewer to complete the survey questionnaire either via telephone or face-to-face.

ONLINE COLLECTION TAKE UP

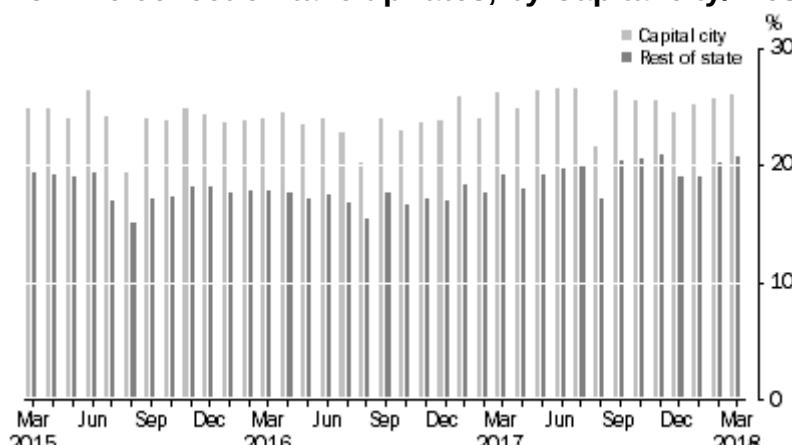
Online collection take up rates have remained consistent since March 2015 (as can be seen in Graph 1). The highest take up rate during the period was 24.5% in September 2017 and the lowest take up rate was 18.0% in August 2015. In the year ending March 2018, the highest take up rate was 24.5% in September 2017 and the lowest take up rate was 20.1% in August 2017.

Graph 1 - Monthly Online collection take up rate



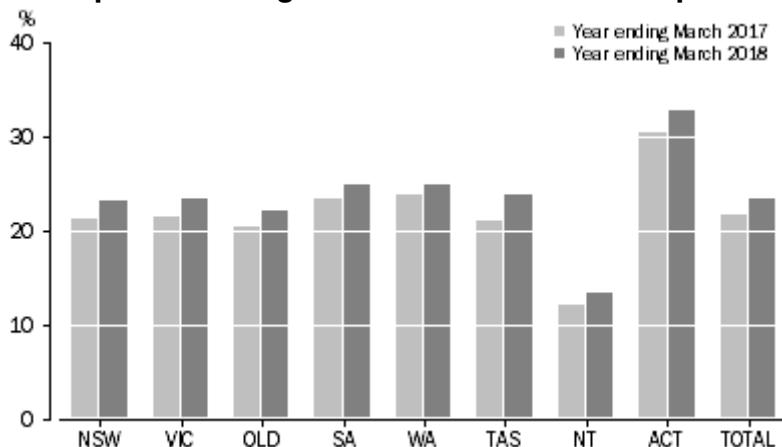
Graph 2 shows that capital city respondents continue to show a stronger preference for online response compared with respondents in the rest of the state.

Graph 2 - Online collection take up rates, by Capital city/ Rest of State



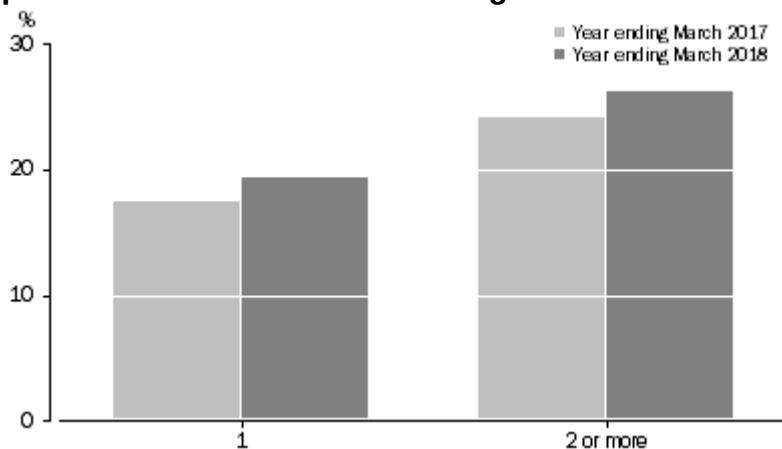
Graph 3 shows there was also a higher take up of online collection in some states and territories than in others. In the year ending March 2017, Australian Capital Territory average take up rates were the highest in Australia (30.6 per cent), while take up was lowest in the Northern Territory (12.1 per cent). In the year ending March 2018, Australian Capital Territory average take up rates remained the highest in Australia and had increased by 2.1 percentage points (to 32.7 per cent), while take up in the Northern Territory also remained the lowest, despite increasing by 1.4 percentage points (to 13.5 per cent).

Graph 3 - Average online collection take up rate



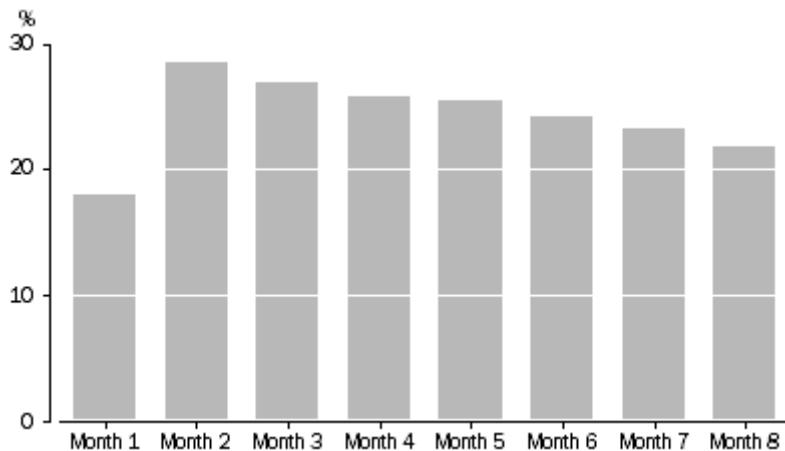
Take up rates by household size show that households with 2 people or more have a stronger preference for online collection, compared with single person households. Take up rates by household size have been relatively consistent in the past two years (as can be seen in Graph 4).

Graph 4 - Household size and average online collection rate



Between April 2017 and March 2018, online collection take up was highest for respondents in their second month in survey, and gradually reduced over the following months (as can be seen in Graph 5). This was seen across all groups (or "panels") who completed their 8 months in the survey between April 2017 and March 2018.

Graph 5 - Average electronic collection take up rates by time in survey



Analysis of the characteristics of respondents who choose to respond through online collection (compared with respondents who favour telephone or face-to-face interviews), continued to show that:

- They were more likely to be female,
- They had a relatively higher participation rate,
- They were more likely to be employed, and
- Were more likely to work in higher skilled occupations (especially professionals).

NEXT UPDATE

The next LFS online collection update will be released with the April 2019 issue, in May 2019.

Article Archive

This section provides an archive of articles and analysis published in Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) and Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001) and Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003), promoting the effective use of labour force statistics. Articles are sorted by publication month.

Articles on labour related topics are also available in Australian Labour Market Statistics (cat. no. 6105.0) and Australian Social Trends (cat. no. 4102.0).

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY ARCHIVE

2018

March

- What's New in the Labour Force (cat. no 6202.0)
- Annual Seasonal Re-analysis (cat. no 6202.0)
- Improvements to Trend Estimation (cat. no. 6202.0)

February

- What's New in the Labour Force (cat. no 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

Improvements to Trend Estimation (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

January

What's New in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

500th Issue of 6202.0 (cat. no. 6202.0)

2017

December

Advice on Reporting Regional Labour Force Data (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

November

What's New in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

October

What's New in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

Major Rebenchmarking of Labour Force Series (cat. no. 6202.0.55.003)

September

What's New in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

Labour Force Explained

August

Labour Force Pivot Tables (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

July

Labour Force Pivot Tables (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

June

What's New in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0)

Labour Force Pivot Tables (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

April

Online Collection in the Labour Force Survey (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

Labour Force Pivot Tables (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

March

Annual Seasonal Re-analysis (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

February

Changes to Filter Lengths used in Labour Statistics (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

What's New in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)

Changes to Filter Lengths used in Labour Statistics (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)

2016

November

Spotlight on Underemployment (cat. no. 6202.0)

Labour Force Pivot Tables (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)

September

Labour Force Pivot Tables (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

August

What's New in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)
Online Collection In The Labour Force Survey (cat. no. 6202.0)
Expanded Education data from the Labour Force Survey (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)

July

What's New in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)
Revisions to Monthly hours worked in all jobs (cat. no. 6202.0)
Advice on Reporting Regional Labour Force Data (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

March

Annual Seasonal Re-analysis (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

February

What's New in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001, cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)
Online Collection In The Labour Force Survey (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001, cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)

January

What's New in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

2015

December

What's New in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

November

What's New in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001, cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)
Update on Recommendation 7 from the Independent Technical Review (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001, cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)
Measures of Underemployment and Underutilisation (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001, cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)
Measures of full-time, part-time job search (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)
Measures of leave entitlements (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)
Measures of current duration of employment (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)
Volume measures of underutilisation (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)
Measures of retrenchment (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)
Measures of sector of main job (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)

October

What's New in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

September

What's New in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

August

Online Collection in the Labour Force Survey (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001, cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)

July

What's New in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)
Progress with recommendations from the Independent Technical Review (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)
Change to Status in Employment Output (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

June

What's New in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)
Assessing Volatility in the Labour Force Series (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)
Update on Recommendations 10 and 11 from the Independent Technical Review
(cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

May

What's New in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001, cat. no.
6291.0.55.003)
Update on Recommendation 7 from the Independent Technical Review (cat. no.
6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001, cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)

April

What's New in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

March

What's New in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)
Annual Seasonal Reanalysis (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)
Update on Recommendations from the Independent Technical Review (cat. no.
6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

February

What's new in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001, cat. no.
6291.0.55.003)
Online Collection in the Labour Force Survey (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no.
6291.0.55.001, cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)
Rebenchmarking Labour Force Estimates (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001,
cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)

January

What's new in the Labour force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

2014**December**

What's new in the Labour force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

November

What's new in the Labour force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001, cat. no.
6291.0.55.003)
Independent Technical Review into the Labour Force Survey and ABS Response
(cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001, cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)

October

Removing the effect of Supplementary Surveys from seasonally adjusted estimates
(cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

September

Changes in this and upcoming labour force issues (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no.
6291.0.55.001)

August

Changes in this and upcoming labour force issues (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no.
6291.0.55.001, cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)

July

What's new in the Labour force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

June

What's new in the Labour force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

May

What's new in the Labour force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001, cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)

February

What's New in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001, cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)

Annual Seasonal Reanalysis (cat. no. 6202.0)

Analysis of changes to Labour Force Regional Estimates (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)

Rebenchmarking Labour Force Estimates to the 2011 Census of Population and Housing (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)

January

Rebenchmarking Labour Force Estimates to the 2011 Census of Population and Housing (cat. no. 6202.0)

Analysis of changes to Labour Force Regional Estimates (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

2013**December**

What's New in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

Understanding the Australian Labour Force using ABS statistics (cat. no. 6202.0)

November

What's new in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001, cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)

September

What's new in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0)

Understanding full-time/part-time status in the Labour Force Survey (cat. no. 6202.0)

June

What's new in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0)

Fact Sheet Did You Know - Underemployment (cat. no. 6202.0)

May

What's new in Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0)

New Labour Force Sample Design (cat. no. 6202.0)

Annual Seasonal Reanalysis (cat. no. 6202.0)

April

What's New in Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0)

Transition to online collection of the Labour Force Survey (cat. no. 6202.0)

February

What's New in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0)

Estimating Jobs in the Australian Labour Market (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no.

6291.0.55.001)
Understanding Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001, cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)
Employed Persons,Trend Estimates (cat. no. 6202.0)
Unemployed Persons,Trend Estimates (cat. no. 6202.0)
Aggregate Monthly Hours Worked,Trend Estimates (cat. no. 6202.0)

January

What's new in Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0)
Forthcoming improvements to the content of the Labour Force and Labour Supplementary Surveys (cat. no. 6202.0)
Understanding Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

2012

November

Rebenchmarking of Labour Force Series (cat. no. 6202.0)
Understanding Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)

August

What's New in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)
Understanding Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)
Employed Persons,Trend Estimates (cat. no. 6202.0)
Unemployed Persons,Trend Estimates (cat. no. 6202.0)
Aggregate Monthly Hours Worked,Trend Estimates (cat. no. 6202.0)

July

Upcoming changes to the Labour Force Survey (cat. no. 6202.0)
Understanding Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

June

What's New in Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0)
Labour Household Surveys content review and the Labour Force Survey (cat. no. 6202.0)
Understanding Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

May

What's New in the Labour Force (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)
Employment and mining in Queensland, New South Wales and Western Australia (cat. no. 6202.0)
Understanding Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001, cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)

April

Population Benchmarks and Labour Force Survey (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)
ABS Response to recent concerns expressed about employment estimates (cat. no. 6202.0)
Understanding Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

March

Annual Seasonal Reanalysis (cat. no. 6202.0)
Understanding Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

February

Exploring Labour Force Data on joblessness (cat. no. 6202.0)
Understanding Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

January

Employment level estimates versus employment to population explained (cat. no. 6202.0)

2011

November

Understanding Labour Force (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001, cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)

Aggregate monthly hours worked,Trend estimates (cat. no. 6202.0)

Underemployment rate,Trend estimates (cat. no. 6202.0)

Labour force underutilisation rate,Trend estimates (cat. no. 6202.0)

February

Historical Revisions (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001, cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)

January

Impact of the floods on the Labour Force Survey (cat. no. 6202.0, cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

Employed Persons,Trend estimates (cat. no. 6202.0)

Unemployed Persons,Trend estimates (cat. no. 6202.0)

About this Release

A range of Labour Force related Excel spreadsheets and Excel pivot tables. The monthly spreadsheets contain broad level data covering all the major items of the Labour Force Survey in time series format, including seasonally adjusted and trend estimates. The monthly pivot tables contain more detailed and cross classified original data than the spreadsheets.

Explanatory Notes

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Time Series Spreadsheet (I-Note) - Time Series Spreadsheet

The median data that were previously released in SuperTable data cubes have been converted to time series spreadsheets 14c, 14d, 14e and 16c, to reduce the complexity of pivot table products.

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Time Series Spreadsheet (I-Note) - Time Series Spreadsheet

For advice on reporting data from this product, please refer to: Advice on reporting regional labour force data.

Due to the flooding in Queensland in January 2011, the Relative Standard Errors (RSE) for January 2011 vary across labour market regions and are higher than normal in some. The RSEs for the Darling Downs-South West and Ipswich City labour market regions are approximately 50% higher, while the RSEs for the Brisbane City Inner Ring labour market region increased by approximately 25%. The Brisbane City Outer Ring, West Moreton and Mackay-Fitzroy-Central West labour market regions have RSEs approximately 10% higher. All other labour market regions have minimal differences. From February 2011, the data returns to normal. Refer to the article Impact of the floods on the Labour Force Survey in the January 2011 issue of Labour Force, Australia, (cat. no. 6202) for more information.

The new labour force sample was phased-in over four months from May to August 2013.

See the article titled "New Labour Force Sample Design" in the May 2013 issue of Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) for more information. During phase in of the new sample, standard errors associated with key labour force data are expected to increase by approximately 10% at a national level, however increased standard errors and variability in the estimates may be more evident in detailed regional data during this time.

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The median data that were previously released in SuperTable data cubes have been converted to timeseries spreadsheets 14c, 14d, 14e and 16c, to reduce the complexity of pivot table products.

For advice on reporting data from this product, please refer to: [Advice on reporting regional labour force data](#).

Due to the flooding in Queensland in January 2011, the Relative Standard Errors (RSE) for January 2011 vary across labour market regions and are higher than normal in some. The RSEs for the Darling Downs-South West and Ipswich City labour market regions are approximately 50% higher, while the RSEs for the Brisbane City Inner Ring labour market region increased by approximately 25%. The Brisbane City Outer Ring, West Moreton and Mackay-Fitzroy-Central West labour market regions have RSEs approximately 10% higher. All other labour market regions have minimal differences. From February 2011, the data

returns to normal. Refer to the article Impact of the floods on the Labour Force Survey in the January 2011 issue of Labour Force, Australia, (cat. no. 6202) for more information.

The new labour force sample was phased-in over four months from May to August 2013. See the article titled "New Labour Force Sample Design" in the May 2013 issue of Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) for more information. During phase in of the new sample, standard errors associated with key labour force data are expected to increase by approximately 10% at a national level, however increased standard errors and variability in the estimates may be more evident in detailed regional data during this time.

Data Cubes (I-Note) - Data Cubes

For advice on reporting data from this product, please refer to: Advice on reporting regional labour force data.

Due to the flooding in Queensland in January 2011, the Relative Standard Errors (RSE) for January 2011 vary across labour market regions and are higher than normal in some. The RSEs for the Darling Downs-South West and Ipswich City labour market regions are approximately 50% higher, while the RSEs for the Brisbane City Inner Ring labour market region increased by approximately 25%. The Brisbane City Outer Ring, West Moreton and Mackay-Fitzroy-Central West labour market regions have RSEs approximately 10% higher. All other labour market regions have minimal differences. From February 2011, the data returns to normal. Refer to the article Impact of the floods on the Labour Force Survey in the January 2011 issue of Labour Force, Australia, (cat no 6202) for more information.

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Due to the flooding in Queensland in January 2011, the Relative Standard Errors (RSE) for January 2011 vary across labour market regions and are higher than normal in some. The RSEs for the Darling Downs-South West and Ipswich City labour market regions are approximately 50% higher, while the RSEs for the Brisbane City Inner Ring labour market region increased by approximately 25%. The Brisbane City Outer Ring, West Moreton and Mackay-Fitzroy-Central West labour market regions have RSEs approximately 10% higher. All other labour market regions have minimal differences. From February 2011, the data returns to normal. Refer to the article Impact of the floods on the Labour Force Survey in the January 2011 issue of Labour Force, Australia, (cat. no. 6202) for more information.

The new labour force sample was phased-in over four months from May to August 2013. See the article titled "New Labour Force Sample Design" in the May 2013 issue of Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) for more information. During phase in of the new sample, standard errors associated with key labour force data are expected to increase by approximately 10% at a national level, however increased standard errors and variability in the estimates may be more evident in detailed regional data during this time.

Standard Errors

Estimates from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) are based on information collected from people in a sample of dwellings, rather than the entire population. Hence the estimates produced may differ from those that would have been produced if the entire population had been included in the survey. The most common measure of the likely difference (or 'sampling error') is the standard error (SE).

The ABS considers that estimates with a relative standard error of 25% or more may be subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes.

To indicate those cells in spreadsheets with a relative standard error of 25% or more, annotations have been applied prior to dissemination.

In addition, the tables below have been supplied to show estimates at which the relative standard error is 25%. Estimates of the size indicated in the tables, or smaller, are considered to be subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes.

Due to the January 2011 flooding in Queensland the relative standard errors for January 2011 will be higher than normal in some regions, therefore for Queensland the estimates at which the relative standard error is 25% will be higher than they appear in the tables below. However from February, the data returns to normal.

The new labour force sample was phased-in over four months from May to August 2013. During phase in of the new sample, standard errors associated with key labour force data were expected to increase by approximately 10% at a national level, however increased standard errors and variability in the estimates may be more evident in detailed regional data during this time.

The RSEs for July 2013 (50% old sample, 50% new sample) and onwards will be subject to revisions in the future, as more information is known about the new sample after it has been introduced.

Additional information on how standard errors for LFS estimates are produced is available in Labour Force Survey Standard Errors, Data Cube (cat. no. 6298.0.55.001).

| State | NSW | Vic | Qld | SA | WA | Tas | NT | ACT | Aust |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Employed | | | | | | | | | |
| Feb-78 — Sep-82 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 4.5 |
| Oct-82 — Aug-87 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 3.0 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 1.0 | 1.8 | 1.3 | 3.5 |
| Sep-87 — Feb-89 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.0 | 2.0 | 2.5 | 1.3 | 1.8 | 1.5 | 4.0 |
| Mar-89 — Aug-92 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.0 | 2.1 | 2.3 | 1.3 | 2.0 | 1.4 | 3.5 |
| Sep-92 — Aug-97 | 5.3 | 4.6 | 3.5 | 2.4 | 2.9 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 4.0 |
| Sep-97 — Sep-98 | 5.9 | 4.5 | 4.1 | 2.4 | 2.8 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 4.4 |
| Oct-98 — Feb-03 | 5.9 | 3.1 | 3.7 | 2.5 | 2.2 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 0.9 | 5.5 |
| Mar-03 — Oct-07 | 6.3 | 3.0 | 4.4 | 2.3 | 2.5 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 1.1 | 6.6 |

| | Feb-78 | Oct-82 | Sep-87 | Mar-89 | Sep-92 | Sep-97 | Sep-99 | Oct-98 |
|-------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Nov-07 | 6.2 | 3.2 | 4.3 | 2.3 | 2.5 | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.1 |
| Dec-07 | 6.1 | 3.4 | 4.3 | 2.3 | 2.6 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.1 |
| Jan-08 | 6.0 | 3.6 | 4.2 | 2.3 | 2.6 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.2 |
| Feb-08 | 5.9 | 3.8 | 4.2 | 2.4 | 2.7 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.2 |
| Mar-08 | 5.9 | 4.1 | 4.2 | 2.4 | 3.0 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.2 |
| Apr-08 | 5.8 | 4.4 | 4.4 | 2.5 | 3.1 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 1.3 |
| May-08 | 5.7 | 4.7 | 4.3 | 2.5 | 3.1 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 1.3 |
| Jun-08 | 5.5 | 4.9 | 4.3 | 2.5 | 3.3 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 1.3 |
| Jul-08 — Aug-09 | 6.9 | 6.1 | 5.3 | 3.1 | 4.0 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 1.6 |
| Sep-09 | 6.5 | 5.8 | 5.0 | 2.9 | 3.8 | 1.5 | 1.1 | 1.5 |
| Oct-09 | 6.1 | 5.5 | 4.7 | 2.8 | 3.6 | 1.4 | 1.0 | 1.4 |
| Nov-09 | 5.8 | 5.2 | 4.5 | 2.6 | 3.4 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 1.4 |
| Dec-09 — Jun-13 | 5.5 | 4.9 | 4.3 | 2.5 | 3.3 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 1.3 |
| Jul-13 — Jan-14 | 7.7 | 3.8 | 5.5 | 2.7 | 3.8 | 1.4 | 0.3 | 1.7 |
| Feb-14 onwards | 7.9 | 3.9 | 5.6 | 2.7 | 3.8 | 1.4 | 0.3 | 1.7 |
| Unemployed | | | | | | | | |
| Feb-78 — Sep-82 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 2.0 |
| Oct-82 — Aug-87 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 3.0 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 1.0 | 1.8 | 1.3 |
| Sep-87 — Feb-89 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.0 | 2.0 | 2.5 | 1.3 | 1.8 | 1.5 |
| Mar-89 — Aug-92 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.0 | 2.1 | 2.3 | 1.3 | 2.0 | 1.4 |
| Sep-92 — Aug-97 | 5.3 | 4.6 | 3.5 | 2.4 | 2.9 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.0 |
| Sep-97 — Sep-98 | 5.9 | 4.5 | 4.1 | 2.4 | 2.8 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 1.1 |
| Oct-98 — Feb-03 | 5.7 | 5.7 | 4.5 | 2.6 | 3.3 | 1.3 | 3.2 | 1.4 |
| Mar-03 — Oct-07 | 6.0 | 5.4 | 4.9 | 2.9 | 3.6 | 1.6 | 2.2 | 1.6 |
| Nov-07 | 6.1 | 5.4 | 5.0 | 2.9 | 3.7 | 1.6 | 2.1 | 1.7 |
| Dec-07 | 6.2 | 5.5 | 5.0 | 2.9 | 3.8 | 1.7 | 1.9 | 1.7 |
| Jan-08 | 6.3 | 5.6 | 5.0 | 3.0 | 4.0 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 1.8 |
| Feb-08 | 6.4 | 5.7 | 5.1 | 3.0 | 4.1 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.8 |
| Mar-08 | 6.7 | 5.7 | 5.2 | 3.1 | 4.5 | 1.8 | 1.6 | 1.9 |
| Apr-08 | 6.8 | 5.9 | 5.5 | 3.2 | 4.6 | 1.9 | 1.5 | 1.9 |
| May-08 | 6.9 | 6.0 | 5.5 | 3.3 | 4.8 | 1.9 | 1.4 | 2.0 |
| Jun-08 | 7.1 | 6.1 | 5.6 | 3.3 | 5.0 | 1.9 | 1.4 | 2.1 |
| Jul-08 — Aug-09 | 9.3 | 8.0 | 7.4 | 4.4 | 6.6 | 2.5 | 1.8 | 2.8 |
| Sep-09 | 8.7 | 7.5 | 6.8 | 4.1 | 6.1 | 2.4 | 1.6 | 2.5 |
| Oct-09 | 8.1 | 7.0 | 6.4 | 3.8 | 5.7 | 2.2 | 1.5 | 2.4 |
| Nov-09 | 7.5 | 6.5 | 6.0 | 3.5 | 5.3 | 2.1 | 1.5 | 2.2 |
| Dec-09 — Jun-13 | 7.1 | 6.1 | 5.6 | 3.3 | 5.0 | 1.9 | 1.4 | 2.1 |
| Jul-13 — Jan-14 | 7.3 | 6.6 | 8.4 | 3.7 | 5.8 | 1.7 | 1.3 | 2.2 |
| Feb-14 onwards | 7.4 | 6.7 | 8.6 | 3.8 | 5.9 | 1.8 | 1.3 | 2.3 |
| NILF | | | | | | | | |
| Feb-78 — Sep-82 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 2.0 |
| Oct-82 — Aug-87 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 3.0 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 1.0 | 1.8 | 1.3 |
| Sep-87 — Feb-89 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.0 | 2.0 | 2.5 | 1.3 | 1.8 | 1.5 |
| Mar-89 — Aug-92 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.0 | 2.1 | 2.3 | 1.3 | 2.0 | 1.4 |
| Sep-92 — Aug-97 | 5.3 | 4.6 | 3.5 | 2.4 | 2.9 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.0 |
| Sep-97 — Sep-98 | 5.9 | 4.5 | 4.1 | 2.4 | 2.8 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 1.1 |
| Oct-98 — Feb-03 | 6.4 | 3.7 | 4.1 | 3.2 | 2.7 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 1.1 |
| Mar-03 — Oct-07 | 7.8 | 3.7 | 5.2 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 1.5 | 2.0 | 1.3 |
| Nov-07 | 7.6 | 3.9 | 5.1 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 1.3 |
| Dec-07 | 7.4 | 4.1 | 5.1 | 3.0 | 3.3 | 1.5 | 1.7 | 1.4 |
| Jan-08 | 7.3 | 4.4 | 5.0 | 3.0 | 3.4 | 1.5 | 1.6 | 1.4 |
| Feb-08 | 7.1 | 4.7 | 5.0 | 3.1 | 3.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.4 |
| Mar-08 | 7.1 | 5.0 | 4.9 | 3.1 | 3.8 | 1.5 | 1.3 | 1.5 |
| Apr-08 | 7.0 | 5.4 | 5.3 | 3.2 | 3.9 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 1.5 |
| May-08 | 6.8 | 5.7 | 5.2 | 3.2 | 4.0 | 1.5 | 1.1 | 1.6 |
| Jun-08 | 6.6 | 6.0 | 5.2 | 3.2 | 4.1 | 1.5 | 1.1 | 1.6 |
| Jul-08 — Aug-09 | 8.3 | 7.6 | 6.5 | 4.0 | 5.2 | 1.8 | 1.4 | 2.0 |
| Sep-09 | 7.8 | 7.2 | 6.1 | 3.7 | 4.9 | 1.7 | 1.3 | 1.9 |
| Oct-09 | 7.3 | 6.7 | 5.8 | 3.5 | 4.6 | 1.6 | 1.2 | 1.8 |
| Nov-09 | 6.9 | 6.4 | 5.4 | 3.3 | 4.4 | 1.6 | 1.2 | 1.7 |
| Dec-09 — Jun-13 | 6.6 | 6.0 | 5.2 | 3.2 | 4.1 | 1.5 | 1.1 | 1.6 |
| Jul-13 — Jan-14 | 8.4 | 4.4 | 9.8 | 3.6 | 4.5 | 1.8 | 0.7 | 2.5 |
| Feb-14 onwards | 8.5 | 4.5 | 9.9 | 3.7 | 4.6 | 1.8 | 0.8 | 2.5 |

Greater Capital City

Feb-78 — Oct-82 — Sep-87 — Mar-89 — Sep-92 — Sep-97 — Oct-98 —

| Statistical Areas | Sep-82 | Aug-87 | Feb-89 | Aug-92 | Aug-97 | Sep-98 | Feb-03 |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Greater Sydney | 4.5 | 4.0 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 5.3 | 5.7 | 5.8 |
| Rest of NSW | 4.5 | 4.0 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 5.3 | 5.7 | 5.8 |
| Greater Melbourne | 4.5 | 4.0 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.6 | 4.6 | 3.3 |
| Rest of Victoria | 4.5 | 4.0 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.6 | 4.3 | 3.2 |
| Greater Brisbane | 3.5 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.5 | 3.7 | 3.4 |
| Rest of Queensland | 3.5 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.6 | 4.3 | 3.6 |
| Greater Adelaide | 2.5 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 2.1 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.7 |
| Rest of South Australia | 2.5 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 2.1 | 2.5 | 2.2 | 2.5 |
| Greater Perth | 2.5 | 2.0 | 2.5 | 2.3 | 2.9 | 2.6 | 2.3 |
| Rest of Western Australia | 2.5 | 2.0 | 2.5 | 2.3 | 2.9 | 2.8 | 2.2 |
| Greater Hobart | 1.5 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 0.9 |
| Rest of Tasmania | 1.5 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 1.1 |
| | Mar-03 — Feb-08 | Mar-08 — Jun-08 | Jul-08 — Oct-09 | Nov-09 — Jun-13 | Jul-13 — Jan-14 | Feb -14 onwards | |
| Greater Sydney | 6.5 | 5.7 | 7.1 | 5.7 | 7.6 | 7.7 | |
| Rest of NSW | 6.4 | 5.6 | 7.0 | 5.6 | 7.5 | 7.6 | |
| Greater Melbourne | 3.2 | 5.1 | 6.4 | 5.1 | 4.0 | 4.0 | |
| Rest of Victoria | 3.1 | 5.0 | 6.3 | 5.0 | 3.9 | 3.9 | |
| Greater Brisbane | 4.1 | 4.0 | 5.0 | 4.0 | 5.9 | 6.0 | |
| Rest of Queensland | 4.4 | 4.3 | 5.4 | 4.3 | 6.3 | 6.4 | |
| Greater Adelaide | 2.5 | 2.7 | 3.4 | 2.7 | 3.0 | 3.0 | |
| Rest of South Australia | 2.4 | 2.5 | 3.1 | 2.5 | 2.8 | 2.8 | |
| Greater Perth | 2.6 | 3.5 | 4.3 | 3.5 | 3.9 | 4.0 | |
| Rest of Western Australia | 2.5 | 3.3 | 4.1 | 3.3 | 3.7 | 3.8 | |
| Greater Hobart | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.3 | |
| Rest of Tasmania | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.6 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 1.5 | |
| Statistical Area Level 4 Regions | Oct-98 — Feb-03 | Mar-03 — Feb-08 | Mar-08 — Jun-08 | Jul-08 — Oct-09 | Nov-09 — Jun-13 | Jul-13 — Jan-14 | Feb-14 onwards |
| Central Coast | 7.4 | 8.5 | 7.2 | 9.4 | 7.2 | 10.2 | 10.4 |
| Sydney - Baulkham Hills and Hawkesbury | 7.2 | 8.3 | 7.0 | 9.2 | 7.0 | 10.0 | 10.2 |
| Sydney - Blacktown | 7.3 | 8.3 | 7.1 | 9.3 | 7.1 | 10.0 | 10.2 |
| Sydney - City and Inner South | 8.5 | 9.7 | 8.3 | 10.8 | 8.3 | 11.7 | 11.9 |
| Sydney - Eastern Suburbs | 9.6 | 11.0 | 9.3 | 12.2 | 9.3 | 13.1 | 13.4 |
| Sydney - Inner South West | 7.3 | 8.4 | 7.1 | 9.3 | 7.1 | 10.1 | 10.3 |
| Sydney - Inner West | 7.7 | 8.8 | 7.5 | 9.8 | 7.5 | 10.6 | 10.8 |
| Sydney - North Sydney and Hornsby | 7.6 | 8.6 | 7.3 | 9.6 | 7.3 | 10.4 | 10.6 |
| Sydney - Northern Beaches | 7.8 | 8.9 | 7.6 | 9.9 | 7.6 | 10.7 | 10.9 |
| Sydney - Outer South West | 7.3 | 8.4 | 7.1 | 9.3 | 7.1 | 10.1 | 10.3 |
| Sydney - Outer West and Blue Mountains | 7.3 | 8.3 | 7.1 | 9.3 | 7.1 | 10.0 | 10.2 |
| Sydney - Parramatta | 7.8 | 8.9 | 7.6 | 10.0 | 7.6 | 10.8 | 11.0 |
| Sydney - Ryde | 7.7 | 8.8 | 7.5 | 9.8 | 7.5 | 10.6 | 10.8 |
| Sydney - South West | 7.5 | 8.6 | 7.3 | 9.6 | 7.3 | 10.4 | 10.6 |
| Sydney - Sutherland | 7.4 | 8.4 | 7.2 | 9.4 | 7.2 | 10.1 | 10.3 |
| Capital Region | 7.2 | 8.2 | 7.0 | 9.2 | 7.0 | 9.9 | 10.1 |
| Central West | 7.6 | 8.7 | 7.4 | 9.7 | 7.4 | 10.5 | 10.7 |
| Coffs Harbour - Grafton | 7.6 | 8.7 | 7.4 | 9.7 | 7.4 | 10.5 | 10.7 |
| Far West and Orana | 7.4 | 8.4 | 7.2 | 9.4 | 7.2 | 10.1 | 10.3 |
| Hunter Valley exc Newcastle | 7.1 | 8.1 | 6.9 | 9.0 | 6.9 | 9.8 | 10.0 |
| Illawarra | 7.6 | 8.7 | 7.4 | 9.7 | 7.4 | 10.5 | 10.7 |
| Mid North Coast | 7.5 | 8.6 | 7.3 | 9.6 | 7.3 | 10.3 | 10.6 |
| Murray | 7.6 | 8.6 | 7.4 | 9.6 | 7.4 | 10.4 | 10.6 |
| New England and North West | 7.6 | 8.7 | 7.4 | 9.7 | 7.4 | 10.5 | 10.7 |
| Newcastle and Lake Macquarie | 7.1 | 8.1 | 6.9 | 9.0 | 6.9 | 9.8 | 9.9 |
| Richmond - Tweed | 7.6 | 8.7 | 7.4 | 9.7 | 7.4 | 10.5 | 10.7 |
| Riverina | 7.6 | 8.6 | 7.4 | 9.6 | 7.4 | 10.4 | 10.6 |
| Southern Highlands and Shoalhaven | 9.0 | 10.3 | 8.7 | 11.4 | 8.7 | 12.3 | 12.6 |
| Melbourne - Inner | 4.1 | 3.9 | 7.2 | 9.4 | 7.2 | 5.2 | 5.3 |
| Melbourne - Inner East | 3.6 | 3.4 | 6.2 | 8.2 | 6.2 | 4.5 | 4.6 |
| Melbourne - Inner South | 3.7 | 3.5 | 6.4 | 8.4 | 6.4 | 4.7 | 4.8 |
| Melbourne - North East | 3.8 | 3.6 | 6.6 | 8.6 | 6.6 | 4.8 | 4.9 |
| Melbourne - North West | 3.7 | 3.6 | 6.5 | 8.6 | 6.5 | 4.7 | 4.8 |

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Melbourne - Outer East | 3.8 | 3.6 | 6.6 | 8.7 | 6.6 | 4.8 | 4.9 |
| Melbourne - South East | 3.6 | 3.4 | 6.3 | 8.3 | 6.3 | 4.6 | 4.7 |
| Melbourne - West | 3.5 | 3.4 | 6.1 | 8.1 | 6.1 | 4.4 | 4.5 |
| Mornington Peninsula | 3.6 | 3.5 | 6.4 | 8.3 | 6.4 | 4.6 | 4.7 |
| Ballarat | 4.0 | 3.8 | 6.9 | 9.1 | 6.9 | 5.0 | 5.1 |
| Bendigo | 3.8 | 3.7 | 6.7 | 8.8 | 6.7 | 4.9 | 5.0 |
| Geelong | 3.7 | 3.5 | 6.5 | 8.5 | 6.5 | 4.7 | 4.8 |
| Hume | 4.3 | 4.1 | 7.4 | 9.7 | 7.4 | 5.4 | 5.5 |
| Latrobe - Gippsland | 4.1 | 3.9 | 7.2 | 9.4 | 7.2 | 5.2 | 5.3 |
| North West | 3.9 | 3.7 | 6.8 | 8.9 | 6.8 | 4.9 | 5.0 |
| Shepparton | 4.3 | 4.1 | 7.4 | 9.7 | 7.4 | 5.4 | 5.5 |
| Warrnambool and South West | 3.7 | 3.5 | 6.5 | 8.5 | 6.5 | 4.7 | 4.8 |
| Brisbane - East | 4.1 | 5.1 | 5.1 | 6.7 | 5.1 | 8.1 | 8.2 |
| Brisbane - North | 4.1 | 5.2 | 5.1 | 6.7 | 5.1 | 8.1 | 8.3 |
| Brisbane - South | 4.2 | 5.2 | 5.2 | 6.8 | 5.2 | 8.2 | 8.4 |
| Brisbane - West | 4.1 | 5.2 | 5.1 | 6.7 | 5.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 |
| Brisbane Inner City | 4.2 | 5.3 | 5.3 | 6.9 | 5.3 | 8.4 | 8.6 |
| Ipswich | 4.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 6.5 | 5.0 | 7.9 | 8.1 |
| Logan - Beaudesert | 4.3 | 5.4 | 5.3 | 7.0 | 5.3 | 8.4 | 8.6 |
| Moreton Bay - North | 3.9 | 4.9 | 4.8 | 6.4 | 4.8 | 7.7 | 7.9 |
| Moreton Bay - South | 3.9 | 4.9 | 4.8 | 6.3 | 4.8 | 7.7 | 7.9 |
| Cairns | 4.9 | 6.2 | 6.1 | 8.0 | 6.1 | 9.7 | 9.9 |
| Darling Downs - Maranoa | 4.6 | 5.8 | 5.7 | 7.5 | 5.7 | 9.1 | 9.3 |
| Fitzroy | 4.2 | 5.3 | 5.2 | 6.9 | 5.2 | 8.3 | 8.5 |
| Gold Coast | 4.3 | 5.5 | 5.4 | 7.1 | 5.4 | 8.6 | 8.7 |
| Mackay | 4.2 | 5.3 | 5.2 | 6.9 | 5.2 | 8.3 | 8.5 |
| Queensland - Outback | 4.7 | 5.9 | 5.8 | 7.6 | 5.8 | 9.2 | 9.4 |
| Sunshine Coast | 4.3 | 5.4 | 5.3 | 7.0 | 5.3 | 8.5 | 8.7 |
| Toowoomba | 4.6 | 5.8 | 5.7 | 7.5 | 5.7 | 9.0 | 9.2 |
| Townsville | 4.7 | 5.9 | 5.8 | 7.6 | 5.8 | 9.2 | 9.4 |
| Wide Bay | 4.6 | 5.8 | 5.7 | 7.5 | 5.7 | 9.0 | 9.2 |
| Adelaide - Central and Hills | 3.3 | 3.1 | 3.3 | 4.3 | 3.3 | 3.7 | 3.8 |
| Adelaide - North | 3.3 | 3.0 | 3.3 | 4.3 | 3.3 | 3.7 | 3.8 |
| Adelaide - South | 3.4 | 3.1 | 3.4 | 4.4 | 3.4 | 3.8 | 3.9 |
| Adelaide - West | 3.7 | 3.4 | 3.7 | 4.8 | 3.7 | 4.1 | 4.2 |
| Barossa - Yorke - Mid North | 3.5 | 3.2 | 3.5 | 4.5 | 3.5 | 3.9 | 4.0 |
| South Australia - Outback | 3.7 | 3.4 | 3.7 | 4.8 | 3.7 | 4.1 | 4.2 |
| South Australia - South East | 3.1 | 2.8 | 3.1 | 4.0 | 3.1 | 3.5 | 3.5 |
| Mandurah | 2.4 | 2.8 | 4.0 | 5.2 | 4.0 | 4.6 | 4.7 |
| Perth - Inner | 3.1 | 3.5 | 4.9 | 6.5 | 4.9 | 5.8 | 5.9 |
| Perth - North East | 2.9 | 3.3 | 4.6 | 6.1 | 4.6 | 5.4 | 5.5 |
| Perth - North West | 2.8 | 3.2 | 4.5 | 5.9 | 4.5 | 5.2 | 5.3 |
| Perth - South East | 2.9 | 3.3 | 4.7 | 6.1 | 4.7 | 5.5 | 5.6 |
| Perth - South West | 2.7 | 3.1 | 4.3 | 5.7 | 4.3 | 5.0 | 5.1 |
| Bunbury | 2.4 | 2.8 | 4.0 | 5.2 | 4.0 | 4.6 | 4.7 |
| Western Australia - Outback | 2.8 | 3.3 | 4.6 | 6.0 | 4.6 | 5.4 | 5.5 |
| Western Australia - Wheat Belt | 2.6 | 3.0 | 4.2 | 5.5 | 4.2 | 4.9 | 5.0 |
| Greater Hobart | 0.9 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.3 |
| Launceston and North East | 1.3 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.9 | 1.5 | 1.7 | 1.8 |
| Tasmania - South East | 1.6 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 2.4 | 1.9 | 2.2 | 2.2 |
| Tasmania - West and North | 1.3 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 2.0 | 1.6 | 1.8 | 1.8 |
| West | | | | | | | |
| Darwin | 1.4 | 1.7 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.9 |
| Northern Territory - Outback | 1.4 | 1.7 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.9 |

Quality Declaration - Summary

QUALITY DECLARATION - SUMMARY

INSTITUTIONAL ENVIRONMENT

Labour Force statistics are compiled from the Labour Force Survey which is conducted each month throughout Australia as part of the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) household survey program. For information on the institutional environment of the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), including the legislative obligations of the ABS, financing and governance arrangements, and mechanisms for scrutiny of ABS operations, please see ABS Institutional Environment.

RELEVANCE

The Labour Force Survey provides monthly information about the labour market activity of Australia's resident civilian population aged 15 years and over. The Labour Force Survey is designed to primarily provide estimates of employment and unemployment for the whole of Australia and, secondarily, for each state and territory.

TIMELINESS

The Labour Force Survey enumeration begins on the Sunday between the 5th and 11th of the month, except for the Christmas and New Year holiday period. In December enumerations starts between the 3rd and 9th (4 weeks after November enumeration begins). In January enumeration starts between the 7th and 13th (5 weeks after December enumeration begins).

Key estimates from the Labour Force Survey are published in two stages. The first, Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0), is released 39 days after the commencement of enumeration for the month, with the exception of estimates for December which are published 46 days after the commencement of enumeration.

The second stage includes detailed data that were not part of the first stage and are published in Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001) and Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003). The second stage is released 7 days after the first stage.

ACCURACY

The Labour Force Survey is based on a sample of private dwellings (approximately 26,000 houses, flats etc) and non-private dwellings, such as hotels and motels. The sample covers about 0.32% of the Australian civilian population aged 15 years or over. The Labour Force Survey is designed primarily to provide estimates of key labour force statistics for the whole of Australia and, secondarily, for each state and territory.

Two types of error are possible in an estimate based on a sample survey: non-sampling error and sampling error.

Non-sampling error arises from inaccuracies in collecting, recording and processing the data. Every effort is made to minimise reporting error by the careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and efficient data processing procedures. Non-sampling error also arises because information cannot be obtained from all persons selected in the survey. The Australian Labour Force Survey receives a higher level of co-operation from individuals in selected dwellings compared to other countries, with the average response rate over the past 3 years being 93.25 per cent,

and the average rate over the past year being 92.5 per cent (to the nearest quarter of a per cent, in rounded terms). See Glossary for definition of response rate.

Sampling error occurs because a sample, rather than the entire population, is surveyed. One measure of the likely difference resulting from not including all dwellings in the survey is given by the standard error. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included in the survey, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

Standard errors of key estimates and movements since the previous month are available in Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0). The standard error of other estimates and movements may be calculated by using the spreadsheet contained in Labour Force Survey Standard Errors, Data Cube (cat. no. 6298.0.55.001).

COHERENCE

The ABS has been conducting the Labour Force Survey each month since February 1978. While seeking to provide a high degree of consistency and comparability over time by minimising changes to the survey, sound survey practice requires careful and continuing maintenance and development to maintain the integrity of the data and the efficiency of the collection.

The changes which have been made to the Labour Force Survey have included changes in sampling methods, estimation methods, concepts, data item definitions, classifications, and time series analysis techniques. In introducing these changes the ABS has generally revised previous estimates to ensure consistency and coherence with current estimates. For a full list of changes made to the Labour Force Survey see Chapter 20 in Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001).

INTERPRETABILITY

The ABS has been conducting the Labour Force Survey each month since February 1978. While seeking to provide a high degree of consistency and comparability over time by minimising changes to the survey, sound survey practice requires careful and continuing maintenance and development to maintain the integrity of the data and the efficiency of the collection.

The changes which have been made to the Labour Force Survey have included changes in sampling methods, estimation methods, concepts, data item definitions, classifications, and time series analysis techniques. In introducing these changes the ABS has generally revised previous estimates to ensure consistency and coherence with current estimates. For a full list of changes made to the Labour Force Survey see Chapter 20 in Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001).

ACCESSIBILITY

Please see the Related Information tab for the list of products that are available from this collection.

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